

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 INT-08 FEA-02 SCI-06 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 FRB-02 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 OIC-04 AEC-11 FPC-01 DRC-01

/193 W

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R 161509Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9185

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, SF

SUBJ: SAG INTEREST IN ENERGY CONFERENCE DEVELOPMENTS

REF: STATE 004159

1. IN ABSENCE OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS CONNECTION ANNUAL MOVE TO CAPE TOWN, FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPUTY SECRETARY VAN DALSEN WAS BRIEFED JAN 9 REGARDING PRESIDENT'S LETTERS TO MAJOR OIL CONSUMERS AND OPEC. (TEXTS OF LETTERS SUBSEQUENTLY SUPPLIED TO VAN DALSEN.) VAN DALSEN EXHIBITED VERY LIVELY INTEREST IN CONFIRMATION THIS DEVELOPMENT WHICH HAD EARLIER BEEN SUBJECT PRESS SPECULATION. HE ASKED AS TO POSSIBILITY PARTICIPATION BEING EXPANDED BEYOND ADDRESSEES OF LETTERS. IN REPLY, EMB
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RE OBSERVED THAT LETTER STRESSED INTEREST OF ALL CONSUMING COUNTRIES BUT HE COULD NOT RPT NOT PREDICT DETAILS OF HOW

CONSULTATIONS WOULD PROCEED.

2. VAN DALSEN NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR BOTH HAD ALREADY RAISED QUESTION IN WASHINGTON OF SAG INTERESTS IN ENERGY PROBLEM. SAG AGENCIES WERE PREPARING A PAPER ON SOUTH AFRICAN SITUATION AND POSSIBLE RELEVANCE TO DEALING WITH PROBLEM FOR DELIVERY TO E BUREAU. THIS PRESUMABLY WILL DEAL WITH BOTH SA PROBLEMS - SUCH AS ASSURING ADEQUATE BUNKERS FOR CAPE ROUTE SHIPPING - AND RESOURCES, EG. COAL AND URANIUM, RELATED TO LONGER TERM SOLUTIONS.

3. COMMENT: SAG APPEARS TO PERCEIVE IMPLICATIONS OIL CRISIS IN SEVERAL LIGHTS AND TO BE PROCEEDING CAUTIOUSLY WITH RESPECT TO EACH ; WITH RESPECT IMMEDIATELY REDUCED CRUDE SUPPLY, SAG PROMOTING OBVIOUS CONSERVATION MEASURES AND PSYCHOLOGY AND SEEKING AVOID DRAWING ON RELATIVELY LARGE STRATEGIC STORAGE. THIS SITUATION IT CAN WEATHER BETTER THAN MOST COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, OAU/INSPIRED ARAB BOYCOTT ADDS ANOTHER DIMENSION FOR FUTURE WITH PROSPECT SUPPLY BEING LIMITED EVEN AFTER ARAB MEASURES MIGHT BE RELAXED GENERALLY (THERE IS SPECTER OF POSSIBLE VARIATION OF LONG STANDING ARAB SECONDARY BOYCOTT PRESSURES TACTICS TO INHIBIT ALTERNATIVE SOURCES). SAG WOULD NATURALLY HOPE FUTURE SHAPE OF WORLD OIL OPERATION DOES NOT RPT NOT REINFORCE SUCH EMBARGOES. ANOTHER FACET, OF COURSE, IS THAT SA DOES HAVE CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES OF COAL (INCLUDING EXPERIENCE IN COAL GASIFICATION) AND URANIUM, BOTH OF WHOSE FUTURE ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION WILL BE AFFECTED BY WORLD WIDE EFFORTS TO REDUCE RELIANCE ON OIL. IN ADDITION TO BEARING ON SA ECONOMIC POLICY PLANNING, THIS POINT TIES IN WITH SA'S BROADER OBJECTIVE OF REDUCING ITS POLITICAL ISOLATION BY POINTING UP ITS ECONOMIC VALUE TO OTHER COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY TO WEST. WHILE SAG TENDS TO PREFER A LOW PROFILE WITH RESPECT TO MOST INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS, IT OBVIOUSLY IS CASTING ABOUT FOR A MORE ACTIVE INPUT IN ENERGY CONSIDERATIONS WITHOUT PUTTING FORWARD ANY DEFINITE PROPOSALS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 16 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PRETOR00213
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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30 JUN 2005

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